



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/730,689	12/06/2000	Shamel A. Bersiek	D-2872CIP	9222

33197 7590 05/07/2003

STOUT, UXA, BUYAN & MULLINS LLP
4 VENTURE, SUITE 300
IRVINE, CA 92618

EXAMINER

RIOS CUEVAS, ROBERTO JOSE

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2836

DATE MAILED: 05/07/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/730,689

Applicant(s)

BERSIEK, SHAMEL A.

Examiner

Roberto J Rios

Art Unit

2836

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 February 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 26 March 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1, 2, 4-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Baker et al (US patent 5,821,636) in view of Powerware 5140.

As per claim 1, Baker et al (herein after Baker) teaches an electrical power distribution unit comprising: a housing having no internal battery; an electrical power input assembly located substantially in the housing of the power distribution unit and adapted to be electrically connected to an electrical power supply; and a plurality of electrical power output assemblies electrically connected to the input assembly, and adapted to receive electrical power from the input assembly, the plurality of electrical power output assemblies including at least one receptacle adapted to receive an equipment plug to provide electrical power. Baker does not specifically disclose providing at least one output connection adapted to be hard-wired to a piece of equipment to provide electrical power. However, Powerware 5140 (PW5140 6000HW) teaches providing a plurality of electrical power output assemblies including at least one receptacle adapted to receive an equipment plug to provide electrical power and at least one output connection adapted to be hard-wired to a piece of equipment to provide electrical power (last page of brochure).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Baker with the teachings of Powerware 5140 such that the output assembly includes at least one hardwired connection for the purpose of providing power to a permanent load.

As per claim 2, Baker teaches the housing being rack mountable.

As per claim 4, Baker teaches the power distribution unit but does not specifically disclose providing an electrical power meter. However, Powerware 5140 teaches a meter located within the housing and adapted to monitor at least one property of electrical power passing through the input assembly (user's guide page 37).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Baker with the teachings of Powerware 5140 such that a meter is provided for the purpose providing a visually indicating a user of the power status.

As per claim 5, Baker teaches the power distribution unit coupled to an electrical power supply but does not specifically disclose a transformer in electrical communication with the power supply and the input assembly. However, the Examiner takes official notice that it is well known in the art to use an isolating/coupling transformer to adjust the commercial power to a usable power voltage.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Baker such that a coupling transformer is used for the purpose of adjusting the commercial power to a usable voltage.

As per claims 6 and 7, Baker teaches the input assembly adapted to be electrically connected at least to a single phase electrical power supply (col. 3, line 13).

A per claim 8, Baker teaches each of the output assemblies including a different circuit breaker (Figure 1).

As per claim 9, Baker teaches a plurality of output receptacles but does not specifically disclose the plurality of electrical power output assemblies including a plurality of differently configured receptacles for accommodating differently configured equipment plugs. However, Powerware 5140 teaches a plurality of electrical power output assemblies including a plurality of differently configured receptacles for accommodating differently configured equipment plugs (last page of brochure).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Baker with the teachings of Powerware 5140 such that the plurality of electrical power output assemblies includes a plurality of differently configured receptacles for the purpose of accommodating differently configured equipment plugs.

As per claim 10, Baker teaches the plurality of electrical output assemblies mounted in a circuit panel (Figure 2).

As per claim 11, Powerware 5140 teaches the plurality of electrical power output assemblies include: a plurality of output connections adapted to be hard-wired to equipment, and the plurality of receptacles, each adapted to receive an equipment plug (user's guide page 23).

As per claim 12, Baker teaches a plurality of output receptacles but does not specifically disclose the plurality of electrical power output assemblies including a plurality of differently configured receptacles for accommodating differently configured equipment plugs. However, Powerware 5140 teaches a plurality of electrical power output assemblies including a plurality of differently configured receptacles for accommodating differently configured equipment plugs (last page of brochure).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Baker with the teachings of Powerware 5140 such that the plurality of electrical power output assemblies includes a plurality of differently configured receptacles for the purpose of accommodating differently configured equipment plugs.

As per claim 13, Powerware 5140 teaches the Power distribution unit comprising hard-wired connections but does not specifically disclose providing at least 8 output connections. However, the Examiner takes official notice that to provide multiple output connections is an engineering design choice based generally on the desired amount of loads to be powered.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Baker in view of Powerware 5140 such that multiple output connections are provided for the purpose of powering any desired amount of loads.

As per claim 14, Powerware 5140 teaches that at least 8 receptacles could be provided (user's guide page 43).

As per claim 15, Baker teaches a switch (12) structured and positioned to alternately connect and disconnect one of two or more electrical power supplies to the electrical power input assembly (Figure 1).

3. Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Baker in view of Powerware 5140 as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Kozlowski et al (US patent 5,747,734).

As per claim 3, Baker teaches the power distribution unit but does not specifically disclose the housing including a front access door and a back access door. However, Kozlowski teaches a power distribution unit comprising front and back doors (Figure 12).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Baker with the teachings of Kozlowski such that the housing includes a front access door and a back access door for the purpose of easily accessing the electrical connections and to protect said connections from any external influences.

4. Claims 16-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Baker in view of Powerware 5140 and Domigan (5,675,194).

As per claim 16, Baker teaches an electrical power distribution unit comprising: a rack mountable housing having no internal battery; an electrical power input assembly located substantially in the housing of the power distribution unit and adapted to be electrically connected to an electrical power supply; and a plurality of electrical power output assemblies located substantially in the housing, electrically connected to the

Art Unit: 2836

input assembly, and adapted to receive electrical power from the input assembly. Baker does not specifically disclose the plurality of electrical power output assemblies including at least one output connection adapted to be hard-wired to a piece of equipment to provide electrical power. However, Powerware 5140 (PW5140 6000HW) teaches providing a plurality of electrical power output assemblies including at least one receptacle adapted to receive an equipment plug to provide electrical power and at least one output connection adapted to be hard-wired to a piece of equipment to provide electrical power (last page of brochure).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Baker with the teachings of Powerware 5140 such that the output assembly includes at least one hardwired connection for the purpose of providing power to a permanent load.

Baker teaches a power distribution unit but does not specifically disclose at least one of output connection structured to be connected to a second electrical power distribution unit. However, Domigan teaches an electrical power distribution system comprising a plurality of interconnected power distribution units (Figures 1-3, 5).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Baker with the teachings of Domigan such that a plurality of power distribution units are interconnected for the purpose of providing a modular power distribution system through a structure such as a building.

As per claim 17, Baker teaches the housing adapted to be mounted on a 19-inch rack.

As per claim 18, Baker teaches the power distribution unit but does not specifically disclose providing an electrical power meter. However, Powerware 5140 teaches a meter located within the housing and adapted to monitor at least one property of electrical power passing through the input assembly (user's guide page 37).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Baker with the teachings of Powerware 5140 such that a meter is provided for the purpose providing a visually indicating a user of the power status.

As per claim 19, Baker teaches each of the output assemblies includes a different circuit breaker (Figure 1).

As per claim 20, Baker teaches a switch (12) structured and positioned to alternately connect and disconnect one of two or more electrical power supplies to the electrical power input assembly (Figure 1).

As per claim 21, Baker teaches an electrical power distribution unit comprising: a housing; an electrical power input assembly located substantially in the housing and adapted to be electrically connected to an electrical power supply; and a plurality of electrical power output assemblies located substantially in the housing, electrically connected to the input assembly, and adapted to receive electrical power from the input assembly, the plurality of electrical power output assemblies including at least one receptacle adapted to receive an equipment plug and to provide electrical power (Figures 1, 2). Baker does not specifically disclose at least one output connection adapted to be hard-wired to a piece of equipment to provide electrical power. However,

Art Unit: 2836

Powerware 5140 (PW5140 6000HW) teaches providing a plurality of electrical power output assemblies including at least one receptacle adapted to receive an equipment plug to provide electrical power and at least one output connection adapted to be hard-wired to a piece of equipment to provide electrical power (last page of brochure).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Baker with the teachings of Powerware 5140 such that the output assembly includes at least one hardwired connection for the purpose of providing power to a permanent load.

Baker teaches a power distribution unit but does not specifically disclose a plurality of interconnected electrical power distribution units. However, Domigan teaches an electrical power distribution system comprising a plurality of interconnected power distribution units (Figures 1-3, 5).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Baker with the teachings of Domigan such that a plurality of power distribution units are interconnected for the purpose of providing a modular power distribution system through a structure such as a building.

As per claim 22, Baker teaches the power distribution unit but does not specifically disclose providing an electrical power meter. However, Powerware 5140 teaches a meter located within the housing and adapted to monitor at least one property of electrical power passing through the input assembly (user's guide page 37).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Baker with the teachings of Powerware

5140 such that a meter is provided for the purpose providing a visually indicating a user of the power status.

As per claim 23, Baker teaches a switch (12) structured and positioned to alternately connect and disconnect one of two or more electrical power supplies to the electrical power input assembly (Figure 1).

As per claim 24, Baker teaches the plurality of electrical power output assemblies located substantially in the housing (Figure 2).


Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-24 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Communication with PTO

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Roberto Rios whose telephone number is (703) 306-5518. In the event that Examiner Rios cannot be reached, his supervisor, Brian Sircus may be contacted at (703) 308-3119. The fax number for Before-Final communications is (703) 872-9318, for After-Final communications is (703) 872-9319, and for Customer Service is (703) 872-9317.

Roberto J. Rios
Patent Examiner


BRIAN SIRCUS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800